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Conduct of elections by outgoing Presidents of District Boards.

* 1699 *Q.*—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) in how many of the District Boards, the President whose term was expiring conducted the election of the President for the ensuing period;

(*b*) in how many of such cases the President for the expiring period also stood as a candidate;

(*c*) in how many of the above cases the President for the expiring period was re-elected; and

(*d*) whether the Government are aware of any reasons for the re-election of Presidents of expiring periods?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information on the point in respect of the elections of presidents of district boards held prior to January 1927. Since January 1927 elections have been held in nine cases before the terms of the outgoing presidents expired. The Government have no information whether in these cases the outgoing president arranged the preliminaries for the election. In all these cases except one where information is not available on the point the meetings held for the elections were not presided over by the outgoing president.

(*b*) In eight cases excluding the one referred to in the answer to clause (*a*) for which information is not available.

(*c*) In seven cases.

(*d*) The Government have had no occasion to consider the question.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answer to this question, may I know whether the Government contemplate the amendment of the Local Boards Act or whether there is any proposal to prevent these District Board Presidents resigning before their term expires and from conducting the elections before their term expires? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Yes; that is a matter which is being dealt with."

Trifurcation of Rajahmundry Taluk Board.

* 1700 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to question No. 673 answered on 26th November 1928—

(*a*) whether the report called for from the President, District Board, East Godavari, in November 1927 on the question of trifurcation of Rajahmundry Taluk Board has been received;

(*b*) for how long this question has been under consideration; and

(*c*) whether the Government have arrived at any decision on the question?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The President has not yet submitted the report.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" It is stated that the President has not yet submitted the report. May I know for how long this question has been under the consideration of the Government? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" We cannot act without getting the report from the President, District Board."

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Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—" I am asking the hon. the Minister whether the President was asked to expedite the matter, and for how long this question has been under the consideration of the Government ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" There is no question of this matter being under the consideration of the Government. The Government have asked for a report from the President, District Board It has not yet been received by the Government."

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—" May I ask whether this question has been under the consideration of the Government from the year 1920 ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" I am not sure, Sir."

Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu :—" May I know, Sir, if the Government sent a reminder to the District Board President to submit the report as early as possible which was called for in November 1927 ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" The President was reminded about a fortnight ago."

Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu :—" Why so late ? May I ask if the reminder was sent only in 1929 when the report was called for in November 1927 ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" That is the last reminder ; it does not mean that we did not remind him earlier."

Mr. D. Narayana Raju :—" May I know whether the hon. the Minister will ask the President to expedite the matter before a certain date ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" We cannot compel Presidents, because they are non-official gentlemen."

Mr. K. V. R. Swami :—" May I know if the Minister is at the disposal of the President and whether the hon. Minister cannot act in the manner suggested ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" There is no question of any Minister being at the disposal of any district board president whatever."

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—" May I know whether this President was asked to submit his report for the first time ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Notice, Sir. "

Municipal Councils

Nomination of Mr. Venugopala Pillai to the Chidambaram Municipal Council.

* 1701 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether at the time of the nomination of Mr. Venugopala Pillai to the Chidambaram Municipal Council, any other names for nomination to the Municipal Council were recommended by the Chairman of the Municipality and the District Collector ;

(b) if so, how many and whose names were recommended ; and

(c) how many applied to the hon. Minister direct and what are their names ?